19990522.ba v02_n555.bam.990522

>From ???@??? Sun May 23 12:35:06 1999
Message-Id: <199905221516.KAA06991@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 10:15:47 CDT
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2555

BOATANCHORS Digest 2555

Topics covered in this issue include:

Message-ID: <374604E9.8E32478A@earthlink.net>
Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 18:14:17 -0700
From: Scott Robinson <spr@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: BC-TRFs
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

David and the gang,

I have noticed this effect in radios I ahve worked on. It seemed
most common in sand state things-Zenith 1000 T/O, for instance.
As there used to be a good country station at 910 kHz in San
Francisco, I aligned a certain number of IFs to 958 kHz to avoid
this problem.

Besides, most sand state radios are not happy above about 7 MHz
chez moi due to nearby array of 4 FM transmitters. Tube stuff
with an RF amp just plain ignores them! Fortunately, 49M is
generally the best SWBC band at my house.

See, BAs are better...but we knew that.

Regards,

Scott Robinson
spr@earthlink.net

Junque is GOOD for you!

David Newkirk wrote:
>
> TRFs have their place for a number of reasons, of course, but for me the
> most interesting one is the avoidance of "tweet" interference -- that is,
> interference that results from a radio's own IF radiation and conduction
> (usually at a harmonic of the IF) interfering with the incoming signal.
> Broadcasters at 910 kHz have been particularly troubled by this effect;
> tuning in a 910-kHz station on a tweet-ridden radio is like tuning with a
> (weak to moderate) BFO on. (Even some modern multiconversion sets are
> subject to this if they include a 455 kHz second or third IF; the ICOM
> IC-765 does it, for instance, as I experienced when tuning in the 910-kHz
> Hartford station in the ARRL lab.)
>
> But what's really interesting, as I discovered when researching the issue
> some years back, is that as a means of survival some tweet-prone
> broadcasters apparently had special TRF (and perhaps some nonstandard-IF
> superhet) radios made for sale in their coverage areas. No IF (or the right
> nonstandard IF), no tweet.

>
> 73,
>
> Dave Newkirk, W9VES
> dpnewkirk@home.com
>
> PS: BTW, did I read right, Marty, that you've been talking about a radio
> that uses a couple of 6SH7s with AGC applied? I wonder how that worked in
> practice, considering that they're sharp-cutoff, and remote-cutoff types
> would've been a better bet for low distortion, especially on strong signals.

Message-Id: <199905220127.VAA13197@flash.naxs.net>
From: "Barry L. Ornitz" <ornitz@tricon.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Non PLL syncronous detector
Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 22:26:05 -0400

John Gibson described a system for synchronous detection:
> I recall an article in which the 455 kc IF was run into a
>frequency doubler. The carrier became 910 kc, and most
>important, the hi and lo sidebands beat with each other to
>generate also a 910 kc signal though heavily modulated. (455kc
>carrier with 1 kc modulation is composed of 455-1, 455, and
>455+1 kcs. The 455-1 and 455+1 combine to form 910 kc in the
>doubler). When the carrier totally fades you still have a 910
>kc sig from the sidebands.

Actually instead of a frequency doubler, you use a square-law device to multiply the signal by itself (1). The squaring process produces a cleaner output signal than does the typical frequency multiplier. This will regenerate the second harmonic of the carrier from even a DSB signal with no carrier. However, the modulation on the second harmonic is far more complicated than John describes. Using his +/- 1 kHz modulation, you will also generate additional sidebands at 2 kHz. With two modulating sine waves, say 1200 Hz and 900 Hz, the 910 kHz signal would have sidebands at 2400, 1800, 300, and 2100 Hz on either side of the carrier. Thus there is a need for the sharp filter that John describes next.

> This 910 kc was run into a 910 kc xtal which was kicked into
>constantly ringing. The xtal output was then fed into an
>amplitude limiter and the constant 910 kc divided by 2. The
>resulting steady 455 kc was passed to a product det with the
>original IF. So the author got a non PLL sync det.

But you have to be careful that the filtering produces the correct phase shift. Typically a phase-locked loop is used with a long time constant to

lock to the 910 kHz output. This is divided down to produce a coherent BFO signal at 455 kHz. Without the PLL, the loop will be especially sensitive to noise. The PLL serves as a filter in this situation.

This Squaring Loop method can be shown to be identical in performance to a Costas Loop (2). Before IC chip PLL's and highly linear double-balanced mixers became available, the Squaring Loop was a simpler approach. Most likely a regenerative divider would have used with tube circuits, so with no signal present the divider would have supplied an inappropriate frequency (although an Eccles-Jordan flip-flop might have also been used). Today, the Costas Loop approach is the simpler one as no special filtering is needed. It also provides about 80% of the needed circuitry for full ISB reception too.

The advantage of the Squaring Loop and the Costas Loop is that both work with DSB signals. Hard-limiting the signal to recover the carrier, popular with many SWL receivers, only works if enough carrier is present.

73, Barry   WA4VZQ   ornitz@tricon.net

(1)   Some review of trigonometry (I recently did a similar analysis using a carrier with two sidebands. While the math is quite simple, it takes several pages of equations before you can see results!).

```
sin(A)*sin(C) = -[cos(C-A) + cos(A+C)]/2    modulation
[sin(B)^2] = [1 - cos2*B)]/2                squaring
```

(2)   Lindsey, W. C. and M. K. Simon, "Telecommunication Systems Engineering," Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1973.

Message-ID: <021701bea400$f46d1f60$fd2fcfd1@default>
From: "Robert Nickels" <ranickel@mwci.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Knob Kneeded
Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 22:07:44 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Looking for a National 3/4" "cosmic blue" knob. Same style as used on NC-183 and the like, only light blue in color.   I don't need the metal skirt, but one from NC-270 or equiv. would work fine. Cash or swap for a knob you kneed!

Thanks and 73,
Bob W9RAN

Message-Id: <199905220219.WAA20121@flash.naxs.net>
From: "Barry L. Ornitz" <ornitz@tricon.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Citizen's Band Boatanchors?
Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 23:18:51 -0400

While the mere mention of CB radio is enough to raise the blood pressure of some hams, how many of us can remember the following companies who often catered to the ham market?

Allied, Amphenol, B & K, Bendix, Browning, Channel Master, Eico, General Radio Telephone, General Electric, Globe, Gonset, Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, E. F. Johnson, Knight, Lafayette, Midland, Morrow, Olsen, Pace, Pearce-Simpson, Poly-Comm, RCA, Raytheon, Realistic (RS), Regency, SBE, Sonar, Squires-Sanders, U.S.L., Utica (RME), Webster...

All of these companies, and many more, also produced CB radios in the 1958 to 1970 time period. Many were modifications of their original 10-meter rigs. Remember Heath also had an 11-meter lunchbox, as well as units for 10, 6, and 2. Some names more associated with 6-meters also made CB gear like Pace and Poly-Com. Most of this early gear used vacuum tubes too. So if All-American-5 table radios, and vacuum tube audio gear can be called Boatanchors, many of these CB rigs can certainly qualify too.

For those interested in seeing an excellent collection of photos of such radios, allow me to suggest the site: http://www.retrocom.com

If you run across such radios, most are easily converted to 10-meter AM without major modifications. Don't hack them up as there are also collectors for just these early CB's too.

Only being a ham for 35 years, I am too young to remember when the 11-meter band was taken away. But my first transmitter, a Heath DX-35 with VF-1 had 11-meters. Fortunately my Drake 2B did not have a crystal for 11-meters or I might have been tempted to fire-up the DX-35 there! :-)

73, Barry L. Ornitz WA4VZQ ornitz@tricon.net

Message-Id: <199905220331.XAA05931@raptor.vermontel.net>
From: "Pete Ferrand" <pete@vermontel.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: BC-TRFs, final Genesis chapter

Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 23:33:27 -0400

>
> I contacted JW Miller today & got back 10 jpegs
> on a pair of 1938 art'ls on
> double tuned TRFs with AVC, et. al.
>

This one's gotta win an all-time award for best customer service!!!

73,
-Pete
WB2QLL
Plainfield, NH
pete@vermontel.net

Message-ID: <025101bea404$a37179e0$fd2fcfd1@default>
From: "Robert Nickels" <ranickel@mwci.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Another one bites the dust
Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 22:38:39 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, not quite, but a buddy sent me the following press release tonight:

MFJ Purchases Hy-Gain
STARKVILLE, MS, May 13, 1999--MFJ Enterprises has acquired Hy-Gain, a well-known manufacturer of antennas, towers, and rotators. Hy-Gain was owned by Telex Communications of Lincoln, Nebraska. The deal closed Monday, according to MFJ President Martin Jue, K5FLU, who declined to reveal the purchase price. Jue said today that MFJ plans to move the antenna manufacturing facility to Mississippi and staff it with local employees. He anticipated production at the new site could begin within a few weeks <snip>

As one who grew up in the shadow of Lincoln, Nebraska-based HyGain Company, I'm sad to see this happen. Parent-company Telex was recently acquired by EVI (ElectroVoice) who now owns other previous competitors Turner, University, and Altec-Lansing. When my Allied catalogs were printed, these were all thriving companies who hired good engineers (many of them hams) and produced innovative products. Andy Anderson, founder of HyGain, was cut from the same cloth as Leo Meyerson, Bill Halligan, Art Collins, and the

Henry brothers, all of whom ran world-famous ham radio businesses out here in the heartland. HyGain had the only full-size open antenna range owned by a ham antenna company and I just hope it's preserved somehow rather than turned into yet another parking lot...

73, Bob W9RAN

Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.19990522110558.006cb0b4@pop.ctv.es>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 11:05:58 +0200
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "JOSE V. GAVILA (EB5AGV/EC5AAU)" <eb5agv@ctv.es>
Subject: SWAP: extra copies of RCA receiving tube manuals
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hello BA List members!

I have some extra copies (original; not photocopies) of the RCA receiving tube manuals. I would like to swap them for others I don't have. All are complete (all pages) but show use in different degrees. If you want, I can send you digital pictures (about 60kb JPGs) of them.

The numbers and condition are:

Number	Condition
RC-15	Good
RC-21	Good-Fair
RC-22	Fair

I am missing the following books:

RC-10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 26, 27, 29, 30

Best regards,

JOSE

PS: I should thank Herb W5AN for pointing me that 'duplicates', as I put in my yesterday post, means the same as photocopies... I guess I will never learn to correctly use english language :-)!

---

73 EB5AGV / EC5AAU
JOSE V. GAVILA
Benetusser - VALENCIA (SPAIN)

From: "David Newkirk" <dpnewkirk@home.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Non PLL syncronous detector
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 07:34:01 -0400
Message-ID: <000001bea446$fd8e9b00$11670518@cc328679-a.vron1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

 from John Gibson:

>   This 910 kc was run into a 910 kc xtal which was kicked into
> >constantly ringing. The xtal output was then fed into an
> >amplitude limiter and the constant 910 kc divided by 2. The
> >resulting steady 455 kc was passed to a product det with the
> >original IF. So the author got a non PLL sync det.

from Barry Ornitz:

> But you have to be careful that the filtering produces the correct phase
> shift. Typically a phase-locked loop is used with a long time constant to
> lock to the 910 kHz output. This is divided down to produce a
> coherent BFO
> signal at 455 kHz. Without the PLL, the loop will be especially sensitive
> to noise. The PLL serves as a filter in this situation.

and

> Hard-limiting the signal to recover the
> carrier, popular
> with many SWL receivers, only works if enough carrier is present.

A great advantage of a PLL AM detector is that, within limits, it can be built to allow for tuning errors and so correct for offsets due to drift, tuning steps, and variation in an operator's overall ability to tune the signal on the nose. A potential problem with a system using a crystal filter as John describes will be that very little tuning error can be tolerated, especially if we consider that the sharp response of the crystal affects the phase of the signal it passes as well as its amplitude. And as Barry mentions, the carrier phase is pivotal; get the carrier phase wrong and

we're on the way back to the serious distortion of selective fading. (Frequency dividers aren't necessarily transparent; they're subject to phase jitter.) As a reality/simplicity check: If we have a stable enough receiver with fine enough tuning precision to manually and repeatably place the incoming signal right where it needs to be in such a filter, we might arguably be better off using sideband filtering and a product detector and tuning the signal in as SSB. Any modern SSB transceiver is stable enough after warmup, and having become addicted to selective-fading-free reception, I'll take telephonic audio over the distortion blasts.

As Barry also mentions, using the signal's own carrier (after hard limiting) really works well only if the signal is nonfading -- and if the signal is nonfading, we can return to the simplicity of a well-engineered diode detector, and--gasp :-D--even do without AGC. A generation or so of video-detector ICs used such hard limiting in achieving video detection; the spec sheets even called them "synchronous," but they really weren't.

Those interested in experimenting with PLL- and carrier-limiting-based detection might be interested in building the circuit by Jukka Vermasvuori, OH2GF, in July 1993 QST (and reproduced at the end of Chapter 15 in the 1995-1998 (and maybe later) Handbooks. I edited (or as they say, "handled") the article for QST and the Handbook, and built (quite rapidly, as will be obvious from its looks) the version shown in a photo or two in the QST article. Jukka was (and probably still is) an engineer with Finnish broadcasting and really knows his stuff. (I wish we could have reproduced the graphed results of the exhaustive distortion testing he did on his version.) His circuit includes PLL and carrier-limited detectors so you can switch between them in real time and compare the techniques. I've used that detector with a Drake SW-4A, a CR-91 (I think; it was a Canadian AR-77 clone so far as I could tell), an R-390A, and an ICOM IC-737A.

Having experienced a variety of rectification, PLL and carrier-limiting AM detectors on radios from regens on up through Watkins-Johnson and Rohde & Schwarz offerings--okay, I still want to try an R-8B--I think the ultimate skywave AM reception system would have to begin with good diversity reception to minimize fading, the phase effects of which can audibly and routinely throw even the best PLL-based detector. *Then* I'd apply the best PLL-detector receiver I could find. Considering the realities of spectrum loading, selectable-sideband reception would be a given.

In the meantime, on signals without adjacent-channel interference, it's a toss-up between my BC-348 and EK-07. The Rohde & Schwarz receiver is higher-fi and includes IF selectivity and AGC-time-constant choices that make it capable of handling interference and problematic fading a bit better than the '348, but for early morning BBC and CBC listening, I can and do listen to the BC-348's wonderful audio for hours. Considering the romance factor--as in "our armed services used unpretentious little radios like this to save the world"--the '348 wins hands down.

73,

Dave Newkirk, W9VES
dpnewkirk@home.com

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.19990522074354.00b31654@mindspring.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 07:43:54 -0400
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@mindspring.com>
Subject: RE: BC-TRFs, final Genesis chapter
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 11:33 PM 5/21/99 -0400, you wrote:
>
>>
>> I contacted JW Miller today & got back 10 jpegs
>> on a pair of 1938 art'ls on
>> double tuned TRFs with AVC, et. al.
>>
>
>This one's gotta win an all-time award for best customer
>service!!!

     Followed closely by RL Drake who's service manager
followed up on a post of mine to the Drake reflector with advice
and the offer of a free adjustment tool courtesy of the company(for a 30
year old radio!)

     Good people!
     /John

+---
| John Brewer- WB5OAU/4
| AMI #24   Vintage Radio Website
| http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/
+---

From: "David Newkirk" <dpnewkirk@home.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: BC-TRFs
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 08:10:08 -0400
Message-ID: <000101bea44c$091392a0$11670518@cc328679-a.vron1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

```
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
```

Scott Robinson wrote:

> Besides, most sand state radios are not happy above about 7 MHz
> chez moi due to nearby array of 4 FM transmitters. Tube stuff
> with an RF amp just plain ignores them! Fortunately, 49M is
> generally the best SWBC band at my house.
>
> See, BAs are better...but we knew that.

Of course you also knew this would get a rise out of me. :-D You haven't mentioned the solid-state radios by type, but if the FM-affected sets you're talking about are modern, up-conversion ham transceivers, the interference you've experienced likely results from the contruction of the radio, not the presence of solid-state devices. An up-conversion radio with an IF in the 40-MHz range will have its image response in the FM band when you're listening below 10 MHz or so. Insufficient shielding will allow strong FM-band signals to be audible as squawky, distorted interference--just what we'd expect to hear when detecting wideband FM with a diode or product detector. A tube-based receiver with the same topology would be interfered with no less if its shielding was similarly inadequate.

My favorite (?) experience with poor-shielding-related interference concerned the FRG-7700 receiver owned by a friend of mine in the Hartford, CT, area. Tuning it one day just below 10 MHz, I discovered that its tuning would electronically "stick" in one particular region even though its L-C VFO was changing frequency as intended. After considerable head-scratching, I determined that the radio's PLL-controlled voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) would have to tune through the video carrier frequency (61.25 MHz, I recall) of Hartford's TV Channel 3 right at that point. The radio's poor shielding allowed Channel 3 to pull, and within limits lock, the set's VCO.

73,

Dave Newkirk, W9VES
dpnewkirk@home.com

```
------------------------------
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 09:15:06 -0500
Subject: FMLA: Multiplexing
Message-ID: <19990522.091602.-73369.0.MNHopkins@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: mnhopkins@juno.com
```

"Whaaaaa!" the kid cried and I knew, again, I am too old for this.

I started down the hallway making a mental list of all the women who should be doing it: my wife, the nurse; our daughter, 9; Christie, the 20-something bodyguard: the kid's mom who was on maneuvers with the WAR social club, and Elaine, Frank's 35ish girlfriend who, if a used car, would need a mileage statement.

I made my way to the kitchen for breast milk, but when I got there a huge black man with a bow tie and crisp white shirt was already running warm water over the packet with one hand and holding the pale, crying kid with the other.

"Thanks, Ali," I told him as I took the proffered 6-month-old, "Frank still here, I gather."

"Still running traffic," the man affirmed as I sat in a folding chair we brought in for the ritual.

Frank, my pal who plans to take back 56-60 mc with a Five Meter Liberation Army was in the basement workshop where Ali heard our little guest cry first. Frank's usual bodyguard, the WAR social group, was in a field exercise; my wife and daughter were at a weekend soccer tournament, and the kid, one of the WAR folks progeny, somehow fell to us to watch.

One of WAR's Archer Space Patrol handy talkies was clipped to Ali's belt near the pocket watch, and the small of his back, none too small on his 245 pound, 6 foot 5 inch frame, hosted an 8 3/8 inch barrel Smith and Wesson. It was an "Outdoorsman," on the large N frame, I thought. My dad had a sporting goods store and even once met Elmer Keith who convinced the manufacturer to offer the first .357.

But a better question would be "Who convinced the WAR, a WASP outfit if one ever existed, to turn Frank over to the Black Muslims while all the white knights were off jousting? The answer to that was down in the basement clicking off contacts on 57 mc using A2, or AM modulated telegraphy.

Frank refuses to have anything to do with the strategy or political sessions of his bodyguards, but his passing comment, "How about the folks you work on 27 mc FM?" started it all.

One of Frank's FMLA chapters alters CB radios to FM for a "Voice of Allah" network, and when the government dropped CW the

Muslims, like WAR, immediately embraced it. When F2, or FM modulated telegraphy, was added to the Chicago sets, it allowed a contact frequency to develop just below 10M as the WAR bunch had many CBs left over from the pre-Frank days. For about six months the extremists have been exchanging Polish jokes and rumors about Janet Reno in dits and dahs, so, after an agonizing assessment, WAR concluded the Nation of Islam was the only other group it really trusted to protect Frank in its absence.

Dits and Dahs were flying from the basement now. Ali offered the bottle saying, "Here you go Little Adolph, Seig Heil it up" as we joined Frank in the basement where tonight it looked like a snap from Frank Harris's old VHF column in CQ Magazine.

The traffic load from the maneuvers made Frank bend his all home brew preference, and he was sitting at a Clegg Zeus / Interceptor pair. The MCW was emanating from the speaker in the companion All Bander attachment, but Frank had a pair of Brandeis headphones he handed me so I could take over his Supergainer receiver which was tonight a tunable IF for a Tapetone CN-50 converter. (It should be called a CN-57 as it was recrystaled to 5M). Frank goes first class as is also evidenced by the finally fixed JP-600 Super Pro Ali tuned while bouncing Little Adolph on his knee.

The kid cried if anyone else held him more than a few minutes, but Ali,who claims "Five strong sons and four wise daughters" despite his apparent young age, is able to tune the Hammarlund, write traffic in Signal Corps lettering, and sing "The Prophet Loves Me," to Adolph simultaneously.

With two spotters, Frank caught up and we held it down until about daybreak with just one more packet of breast milk, two diapers, and another shirt for Ali who observed, "You guys get started early, don't you?" to the offending Adolph.

Dawn brought the moms, with Ali's wife arriving first and taking Adolph as we closed the station. Ali's xyl met Little Aldoph's mother at the landing and Frank went up to brave the fusillage of baby talk as we cleaned up. It was
then I could observe that Ali's wife, despite her modest garb, looked pretty young to be the mother of nine. I suggested that, in a tentative way, as Ali and I walked up the stairs.

"You are right, my friend," Ali said. "My wife is young indeed - but I have two more."

***So, the Chinese ideograph for trouble is two women under the same roof, but Mohammeded would go up to four and still name the movement, "Peace." You never know, which will become painfully clear next time when we find Frank under the same roof with a Ten Tec Power Mite 2 and the inscrutable "Mr. Borger."

de ab5L, michael in dallas, MNHopkins@JUNO.com
Student of Tecraft, ICM and Six Meters' Golden age: 1957-58 Box 226841, Dallas, TX 75222

From: JONWEINER@aol.com
Message-ID: <bd4efe5e.24781e02@aol.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 10:49:38 EDT
Subject: FS: URM-25F Signal Generator
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have for sale a URM-25F signal generator, complete with the rare cover and copy of the original manual. This is the last and best version of the signal generator that tunes down to 10Khz. Especially good for aligning those 50.5Khz IF's on Hallicrafters and Hammarlunds. Calibrated output, down to less than .1uv, and fully adjustable modulation. In very good condition, with the usual military markings on the outer case. Price $145., plus shipping from Greenville, SC.

Jon, K1VVC

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 10:13:15 -0500
Subject: TCB as SW-3
Message-ID: <19990522.101353.-73369.4.MNHopkins@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: mnhopkins@juno.com

Someday folks will tell about converting a tube type CB to a Ham rig and collectors will groan as they do now when an OT says he made a converter from an SW-3 and threw away the in-the-box coils he didn't use.

It's the way of things and then they will beat a path to the door of Dennis, W5FRS, who is an active on Glowbugs but has a secret life. The

other day the brought over an Apelco AR-9 for me to evaluate. Paid $5 for it and it is the very first entry in the very first Sam's CB Fotofacts (1962), I learned at the library. Its robust construction says retuned low band business radio to me and Dennis is thinking of using it as the basis of a last model (1957) Frank Jones Supergainer. But maybe he should put it in a bonded warehouse.

de ab5L, michael in dallas, MNHopkins@JUNO.com
Student of Tecraft, ICM and Six Meters' Golden age: 1957-58
Box 226841, Dallas, TX 75222
Banned for life from QRP-L mailer for various truths.

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 22 May 1999 09:51:52 -0500
Subject: Caprocytes of the Sages
Message-ID: <19990522.101353.-73369.2.MNHopkins@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: mnhopkins@juno.com

Just shared an old saw with a new friend. Told him how to get CW/SSB on an AM RX with a 1650kc IF. One gets a cheap transistor portable, like my daughter's pink Radio Shack "Flavoradio," and tunes it to somewhere around 1200kc. The LO of a BCBer runs .455 mc higher than the station heard and you get a beat note.

I love things like that and would put my stash of "Hints \nd Kinks for the Radio Amateur" in the gun case were it not full of my basement visitor's unpromouncable ordinance. But I realize that I ,and we, collect this lore from a different motivation than the OTs we study.

Parts were scarce and dear back when and the Old Timers were just trying to get along. It is if they were today trying to run the Internet with an 80286. Consider the auto fancier's fascination with the '32 Ford. This is the "Little Duce Coupe" celebrated by the Beach Boys and a generation of Hot Rod magazines. But it became so for prosaic reasons. The Ford A was cheap and light when big V-8s became available -- much like a used Dodge Aries today. To a hardscrable auto builder the year Ike took office, the first A is a 24 year old junker. The Ford V-8 arrived four years into the model run, so the '32 is the first of the heavier frames. It had no other significance to the early hotroders.

So I continue to follow the paths of the past masters, like an Eastern pilgrim. My hope is to find some calcified reminder that the sages, too, might have stopped there.

I never try to start a new path.

de ab5L, michael in dallas, MNHopkins@JUNO.com
Student of Tecraft, ICM and Six Meters' Golden age: 1957-58
Box 226841, Dallas, TX 75222
(Born 2 DEC 45 and wanted to be one of those who could "fix a radio.")

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2555
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